

## **Ambassador Tatiana Gfoeller**

### **Remarks at the Hospital Art Donation to the Bishkek City Hospital #3**

**June 1, 2009; 1:30pm**



Good day!

It is an honor for me to be here today at the unveiling of a painting that was donated by an American NGO to the Pediatric Unit of Bishkek City Hospital.

This painting is special for several reasons. It is special obviously because

its aesthetic beauty will decorate the walls of the hospital and hopefully put a smile on the face of the children who come here to be healed. But it is also special because it represents a core value of all Americans – charity and volunteerism. This painting was donated by an NGO called Hospital Art, which I'm proud to note, is headquartered in my hometown of Atlanta, Georgia. Hospital Art gives comfort and hope to those who suffer in hospitals by providing artwork at no cost to the hospitals. To date, they have provided over 2,000 paintings to hospitals in 188 countries, with a goal of eventually providing a painting to every hospital in the world. The painting I am unveiling today represents the volunteerism of ordinary Americans – in this case, employees of General Electric – who spent hours working on the painting. They gave generously of their time to ensure that the painting would look its best when it was delivered to the hospital.

I am very proud of my fellow Americans for donating their time to create such a beautiful piece of art. I hope that the painting will bring a bit of cheer to the youngest patients and their doctors.

Thank you.